

PAUL J. MAGINOT
HAROLD C. MOORE
MICHAEL D. BECK
DAVID M. LOCKMAN A
JAMES D. WOOD
RUSSELL E. FOWLER II
GERALD W. ROBERTS
DAVID R. MOORMAN
A GEORGIA & OHIO BARS ONLY

MAGINOT, MOORE & BECK LLP
PATENT AND TRADEMARK ATTORNEYS

CHASE TOWER
111 MONUMENT CIRCLE, SUITE 3250
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-5115

TELEPHONE (317) 638-2922
FACSIMILE (317) 638-2139

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To: EXAMINER RICHARD R. SHAFFER

Fax #: 571-273-8300

Company: USPTO - ART UNIT 3733

From: MICHAEL D. BECK

Date: May 18, 2006

Number of Pages: 7 (including cover sheet)

MESSAGE: S.N. 10/624,066

Resp. To OA / Request for Reconsideration

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1842-0018

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Johnson et al.) Examiner: Richard R. Shaffer
Application No.: 10/624,066) Art Unit: 3733
Filed: July 21, 2003) Confirmation No. 5163
TISSUE DISTRACTION DEVICE) May 18, 2006

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

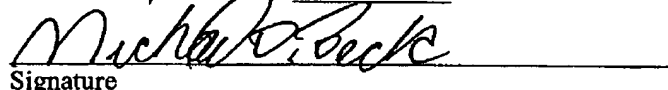
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following amendment and arguments in response to the Final Office Action dated May 4, 2006. This response is being filed within two months of this mailing date (which expires on July 4, 2006). It is believed that no extensions of time or associated fees are due; however, in the event that an extension is required, the Commissioner is requested to provide such extension and is authorized to deduct the necessary fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on May 18, 2006 to the central facsimile number 571-273-8300.



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